

YURAS, Ivan
Subject: YURAS, Ivan of DONETSK

Source: AT

DATE: 24 Aug 64

Meeting at Corhrell University August 19th 1964.

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The first contact was on the street in front of Sage Hall. A group of Soviet Students were on their way to a meeting. In the group I saw Stadnichenko, I approached him and we arranged to meet later on that day at 3:00P.M. He asked me what I was doing in Ithaca, I mentioned that I came with my uncle from Buffalo. He also told me that they (The Soviet students) were to stay at the Soviet embassy in New York. I told him that I had to go and would see him later. Before I meet S. I was seen by Kovalenko. He approached me and asked me what I was doing in Cornell. He seemed very friendly and did not mention our past differences. Meeting at 3:00P.M. August 19th, 1964.

At 3:00P.M. I ~~meet~~ met Stadnichenko and his friend Ivan Yuras. Ivan Yuras. age 33, born in Yzhorod Ukraine, member Communist party, lives in Donetzk, teacher in the Pedagogial Institute (night session) Address: Donetzk, /Str. Universtetska Bldg. 24 Pedagogial Institute.

Married has one daughter.

Description: Height: 5'6"

weight 130-140 Lbs.

Blond hair with a receding hairline. combs hair back.

Facial description: has a narrow face, small lips, high cheekbones,

Body description: Very slim built, when he walks he likes to keep his hands away from his body,

Personal habits: smokes, ^{likes} Marlboro cigarettes. Had a carton of them in his room. Likes to drink, at first meeting alcohol smelled on his breath. Likes to drink beer,

Personal effects: In his room he had a portrait of Shevchenko, apples, carton of cigarettes, a book "letters to the President" a few books on English grammer.

We met on the street in front of Sage Hall. S. gave a proposition to go up to Yuras's room and there we could talk. On the way up to the room we met Kovalenko. He said hello to us and went on his way. In the room I noticed the postcard of Shevchenko. I started asking Yuras about the celebrations of Shevchenko in Ukraine.

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He said that the holiday was celebrated everywhere in the Ukraine. I gave him a postcard about showing the monument of Shevchenko in Washington. He gladly took it and thanked me for it. After 15 minutes Kovalenko walked into the room. S. stood up and offered Kovalenko his chair. As soon as Kovalenko came into the room, both S. and Y. became quiet, and K. took over the conversation.

Topics discussed:

Russification: K. again said that there is no Russification in Ukraine, that all Ukrainians speak Ukrainian. When he was saying this in broken Ukrainian, (mixing Ukrainian and Russian words) S. and Y. were taking great pleasure in correcting his language. This was annoying K. considerably and he looked at S. and Y. threateningly. After this they both became quiet. Then to make up for his error, K. started to correct my Ukrainian. S. and Y. stood up to my defence. This was also annoying K. and he dropped the question of language and Russification.

Ukrainian Nationalism:

K. asked me what group of nationalists I was associated with, I told him that I was only associated with a Ukrainian student organ. He did not seem to believe this and he asked me again what group I was with. I gave him the same answer. He still did not seem satisfied but dropped the topic. (He was to bring it up again in a few minutes) He wanted to know how many groups there were in the political immigration. I told him that I only knew of the Bandervitsi and the Melnikivtsi. Then again he asked me the same question about my membership. He phrased it this way: "Tell me Stephan, as one Ukrainian to another, what group of nationalists do you belong to, we are both Ukrainians and these things help us, we should get to know each others feelings." I told him that as a Ukrainian I am telling him the truth. During this exchange, both S. and Y. were quiet.

Recent defection of two Soviet Musicians:

K. said that they must have been parasites living off the work of honest people. Such things did not bother him, and he hopes that more of such parasites will run away, he also said they will not help the U.S. in any way.

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I found that the conversation was not going to well and I decided to end it now. In the meantime K. saw the picture of Shev-

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him where he got it, Y. said that I gave it to him. K. looked at it and commented that it does not look like Shevchenko. I said that this is a sculpture of him when he was young. K. wanted to know who was the sculpture. I said that I don't know. K. was handling the postcard all this time and I asked him to ~~see-it~~ show it to me. I looked at it and gave it back to Y. I said that we must leave, and S. and Y. got up to go with me. K. also stood up and went with me. Outside I said goodbye to S. K. he asked me to visit him in Kiev when I ever got the chance. As K. was going away S. said that ~~now~~ we can talk more freely. K. overheard this and turned around and said he will talk with S. later. When K. had gone inside both Y. ~~and~~ and S. seemed relieved. Y. took S. aside and whispered something into his ear. They both laughed. I asked them who K. is, they said that he is the deacon of the Kiev Univer and is higher than them. S. started complaining that K. always gives him the dirty jobs to do. S. asked Y. to go to his room and get something for my uncle. (I had received a book about Shevchenko from S. in Y's room.) When Y. had gone, I asked S. why he invited Y. along to meet my uncle. S. said that he was scared to go alone, people might start talking that there goes S. alone with some unknown person. It might be bad for him, therefore he thought it better to take Y. along. Along the way to the Restaurant we talked mostly about the richness of America. S. was impressed with synthetic fabrics, and the cars. Y. was quiet and just sang along the way. When we reached the restaurant we ordered beer and engaged in small talk.

General information.

Group will leave Cornell University on Saturday August 22, and arrive in N.Y. that evening. They are travelling by bus. They will be in N.Y. for a day and then leave for Washington for 4 days. When they return from Washington they will stay in Soviet mission to the U.N. They will be in N.Y. for 4 days. S. and Y. promised to call me when they arrive in N.Y.

After dinner Y. was drunk and I helped him up ~~the~~ to his dormitory in Sage Hall. On the way we sang Ukrainian songs, and told some non-political jokes. We said goodbye and promised to meet again in N.Y.

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In the restaurant Y. started to ask K. "my uncle" about the various Ukrainian political immigrations groups, what holds them together, and what separates them. then he wanted to find out what "my uncle" was doing but later he became so drunk that he could not continue this line of questioning.

In the restaurant Y. mentioned that they are getting only 100 dollars a month and that this is not enough.

Y. also said that he is not allowed to visit Brooklyn. He did not know why.

I received from Y. a card of with a portrait of Shevchenko on the cover. Also he gave me a lapel pin with Shevchenko's portrait on it.

We gave Y. a pipe, tobacco, and a pipe cleaner.

I gave Kovalenko a cigarette lighter.

Y. gave "my uncle" some postcards and pins of Shevchenko and Vostok 3. Going up the hill I asked Y. to sing me the Soviet hymn. He said that he doesn't know it and doesn't care to know it. I then asked him to sing the Ukrainian hymn, he started mumbling something under his breath and said that he doesn't know it either.

In the room K. asked me what I was doing in Buffalo, I told him that I went to visit my uncle there who is on vacation. I also said that I have a girlfriend there.

In the restaurant "my uncle" gave his pen to S.

When we came into the room I asked them how many Ukrainians there were in the group. S. and Y. said that there were 8. But when K. came he said that there are 7. They had a small discussion to find out all Ukrainians in the group.

In the restaurant when I wanted to give my pipe to Y. he refused to take it at first, then I said that I gave my lighter to K. At this he became insulted. He said "You dare to compare me to that pig. Kovalenko, if you do this again I will become insulted. if that is the only reason that you are giving me your lighter than I don't want it."

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